The King's Rose Diamond By George Griffith

(Copy light, 1997, by the S. S. McClure Co.)

Day by doy, stone by stone, the parcel had Day by day, stone by stone, the parcel had increased and every one of the now spicidid collectin of gems represented, not only so many pounds sterling in hard cash, when once successfully translated from the Kimberly compound and sorting houses to the cutside world, but also many moments of described and any increase of presenting it. The fate of the full of the cutside world, but also many moments of described and mingled with loving memories and fond anticipations. persise yet skilfully hidden anxiety, during ries and fond anticipations. which the fickle needle of fate had swayed to and fro between two poles of fortune and rule.

That same night, between 11 and 12, Mr. Muratti had a visit from a man of his own pe pile, c. youth of same 21 summers, whose life had so far been mostly winter. Not

him after they had been scarched and pass and again and again that rising financier them direct to one of the illicit dorlers outside, but that was not his way. He had no him out of the gutter and set him on his they did not go so far as to put a value of other confidant than his own conscience, not feet on the pavement. The subject of their about thirty housand pounds on the high and always an approving one, but at any rate interview that particular night was closely hollow heels of the ledy's d inty French-

that he had tempted the fates for enough, and at 6 that even'ng he walked off to his

That night albeit with some little fear and trensiding, he permitted himself the all for?" luxury of a few minutes' examination of his plunder in bulk, and an estimate of its value—of to him, but to the more fortunate man who should succeed in getting the parcel through saidly to London or Amsterdam. If he could only do that himself he would never scious pride "and heaves I'm playing." he could enly do to the misser he would never to do enother day's work in the world-but he was an employe, a corter; and therefore a marked man, and the secret ramifications of the wonderful system which inelosed him and all like him as in a net were

No. that risk was two great, considering that he could now make \$4,000 or \$5,000 or an hour or so, and at the same time transfer all his risk and liability to some one else and go back to his work with a light hear in a certain sense, a clear conscience,

there was one magnificent rose dia mond, which must have weighed somewhere between forty and fifty carata, which he would dearly have level to see nicely cut and polished and glittering on the meck of in the hair of a certain well-loved someone far away in old Carliste; but he knew well enough that there was not another of its size and color in the world. The nearest to it was in the De Beers collection, and the more powershop of it by any one but a mon arch or a militoraire would mean just what his own procession of it meant, so there was

no use thinking about that.

With something very like a sigh for the unattainable possibilities of his so far successful theft he tied up the gems in a bit of dirty rag, and stuffed them into the toe of rather dilapidated Wellington boot. Then he and a wash and a change, and went for a walk down town.

On his way along Stockdale street h chanced to meet a well dressed, dapper look ing little man, who codded to him as on might do to a casual acquaintance and said in a quick, chirpy sort of tone: "How do, Ridley? Going strong, ch?" "Pretty well, Mr. Muratti," he replied, with a quick look up and down the street. "Re-

turns are looking up again. We've bid some very pretty fields the last day or two." Oh, glad to hear it, even from a man who waster his opportunities as idiotically as you

Anything particularly choice?"

"Well, yes. Are you doing anything is second-hand boots just now, Mr. Murati?" gentleman with whom young Ridley had thus falled into conversation was, in these days, known in camp as Mickey Muratti. The witer world knows him now as Michael Mura il, esq., M. L. A., and director of many Important financial undertakings. But in three days he was just on extremely clever mad, a Jew of reputed Florentiae ancestry, but more recent and authentic East End ex-traction, who had made his deput in Kimberly as a dealer in cheap jewelry and shop-made outfits—after having wandered ubout picking up a living by the display of his jugglog abilities—and who was now locked upon as one of the smartest and most successful "operators" on the dismond fields. Inspector Lipiuski and some of his more trusted subordinates cherished certain sus-pictons as to the scope of his operations, but so far his dealings had been blameless at least so far as toughle evidence was con-cerned, added to which he had recently married a very pretty and exceedingly clever wife, which meant much on the fields in

Mr. Muritti did not seem in the least an nove! by the apparent reference to his former



"WHAT DO YOU WANT?"

On the contrary, he looked up with a quick "Well, I haven't done anything in the old clo' line for some time now, but you know I'm always on for a trade. What's the figure?"

"You know, if you were left to yourself, Jossey, you'd never makes."

"Ten thousand." "I'll see you-I mean I'd like to see the goods first before I ray anything to that. It's a hig price for a pair of second-hand boots, you know, Mr. Ridley. Still, I'm glad to see that you're beginning to rise to a proper

sense of your opportunities. When can I see the boots?" "I was thinking of taking them down to Tooley's tomorrow about this time to have them soled and heeled."

"So you're on to that any, are you? Well, you're not such a blighted idiot as I thought you were, Ridley; so I apologize. I shall be sending to Tooley's myself—but, look here. If we mean business, what's the good of wasting time like that? Go and get your boo's now and take them to Tooley's. He isn't shut and he's got a pair of mine to mend. I'll be there in half an hour, and if

to Frank Ridley, but to Miss Alice Ran-some. The I G U was personal, but both went to Eugland by the next mail.

one that would not give him away.

To have taken the states out one by one would only have multiplied the risk of dia-

covery and rules by the number of them, for the possession of a single illicit diamond the end of the discussice, "you'll never be any good to yourself or any credit would have meant disgrace and penal servi-tide just as certain as would the discovery around in this good-for-nothing seri of way on his pers n of the whole £20,000 or £30,000 or £30,000 worth of gens—the very pick of the Kimberly mine output for exarly six months past.

So one afternoon he made up his mind behave yourself you'll get out with three. I know the ropes down yonder; don't you fear, and I'll pull 'em hard for you. Then and a: 6 that evening he walked out to his when you come out there's \$5,000 for you in solid cash, and \$1,000 a year for five years forthers in the licing of his somewhat stabby lafter that. Now, Jossey, what do you say to that?"

"What do you want me to be trapped at all for?" The tempted Joshua objected rather sulkily. "If you've got the gonivahs,

have done with it. Shall I ask my wife to Honaire, until at last a certain fact had Simon Likewise. Nemaha county's candidate get up and come down?"
"I hope there'll be to necessity for that,

replied the inspector, with a pleasant smile. "But now gentlemen, we must get to work, please. It isn't pleasant for any of us. I know, but 4.'s our duty and it must be done."

The formality resulted exactly as the assute Mickey had predicted it would. The dia-monds—a parcel of stones worth about 1200 at first cost—were promptly found Mr. Muratti blustered, and his visitors All this while Cy was going up the river in Jossey's pocket, and he played the tyro in quietly but firmly doubled their already extended the promptly found in Jossey's pocket, and he played the tyro in quietly but firmly doubled their already extended the promptly found for the river the teeth of a thirty-mile-an-hour gale. Ho long this state of affairs would have last

Mickey, of course, did the viriuously indignant relative zed disappointed benefactor without a flaw, not only at the momen, of discovery, but at the police court the next morning. So well, bideed, did both play their parts that, so Inspector Lipinzki's intense disgust, the megistrate refused to seed the chief criminal to the special court for trial. and so, after providing generously for the def o e of his erring relative, he left the court

house a triumphantly whitewashed man.
At the next sitting of the special court Some men to Frank Ridley's position—and he was one of the most trusted sorters in camp—would have taken the stones out one by one or employed Kaffirs to take them from him after they had been searched and pass and grain and again that trusted to Mickey Muratti. The was distantly related to Mickey Muratti. take a trip to Europe to avoid the worst of the hot scason in Kimberley, hispector they did not go so far as to put a value of about thirty housand pounds on the high and

> Nearly five years later Michael Muratti, eaq. was sitting at the writing table in the library of his town residence in Lancaster Gate. He was reading a letter and swearing softly under his breath at every line of it. When he had read it through for the second time he crushed it to in his hand, stuffed t into his trouser oocket, went and stood on the hearth rug with his short, sturdy legs wide apart and said to a life-sized portrait of himself, which hung in the middle of the prosite wall:

both of them and I can't stick it any nger. I'll give 'em just another thousand you say objece, for old times' sake, and that's the lot.
Half a million opiece, when! Why don't they ask for the whole cabbodie at once?
gonivahs, The explanation of this resolution may be briefly given as follows: Thanks to emplay behavior and a certain amount Thanks to ex-

the others do?"
"Because I don't do business like the others," replied Mickey with an air of con-

scious pride, "and because I'm playing a welcome but not unexpected intelligence that,

MICKY, OF COURSE, DID THE VIR TUOUSLY INDIGNANT RELATIVE

that's what made me think of this lay. We were shadowed again at Tooley's, and I was quaintrace of Frank Ridley, who had been spondent of the Kansas City Star, as he is followed home here by one of the smouches. discharged without any assigned reason a few familiarly called, went down to the river with "Now, Lipinzki's no fool, and neither is weeks after the great coup which had proved a line that looked a rope. He had a confox, nor Lowe, nor any of them. What do so worthless to him. The bank had been ple of pounds of liven for bait. He set out I want talking to Ridley for just after he's advised by cable that a leaf had been stoled in a rickety old canoe that has long bee come out of the sorting room? What do I out of Mr. Muratti's London check book and regarded as a condemned craft. want to meet him again the same night at a boot store and bring a pair of his boots home by mistake for?

"I'll tell you, Jossey, these chaps know as well as I do that I took a parcel of stones from Ridley tenight and before long Lipinzki will be here with a search warrant to look for them. Now, if he doesn't find any he'll reckon that I've planted 'em, and I'm going to run 'em as you say. That means that we stiall be watched, and that every one who goes out of came, especially any one belonging to me, will be stopped and searched, and so the missis'll have about as much chance of getting those stones down to Capetown and onto the steamer as I would.

"Now see how my clan works out. They know I've got stones from Ridley, but they don't know what stones—see? They come don't know what stones—see? They come here with their warrant, arrest us both and here with their warrant, arrest us both and search us, find this other little lot on you and jump to the conclusion that they're the right ones and that I've just given 'em to you. But there's no proof of that and they can't get one, for you'll play the funk, own up and swear you bought them from a Kaffir, while I do the indignant, victuous lay. "You needn't be afraid of Ridley. They don't want him yet. They'll wait for him and nab him when convenient. It's me they want. De Beers would give a good bit just

now to plant me on the breakwater for a few cars while they put this amalgamation business through. That's where my game comes years while they put this amalgamation business through. That's where my game comes in. This parcel should pan out at \$30,000 at the very least, and that's just what I want to fight these amalgamators on their own ground. to fight these amalgamators on their own

"If I got nabbed, the whole game would be up; but if you go for me, Jossey, I'll make my fortune, and yours, too, my pippin. Muratti will go flying up sky high, and it won't be a matter of thousands then, Josey, it'll be millions, my boy-millions, and you

century of blue moons, let alone ten thousand in three years or so. Come now, what do You'll have to look sharp, you say? may be here any minute-ah, yes, I though so; there's the official knock. Now, don't act the goat, and fly in the face of good fortune. Here's the gonivahs. That's it, in your waistcoat pocket. Now button your coat. That'll do!"

"Well, gentlemen, good evening. What can I do for you this evening, if it isn's morning already?"

"You can hand over that parcel of dia-tonds you got from Frank Ridley tonight, Mr. Muratti, and then you can come with us." replied Inspector Lipinzki politely, but still a trifle stiffly. "I've a search warrant here, but you'll save us a lot of trouble and yourself and household a lot of inconvenience

The same evening he renewed the

cautioned not to cash any checks without further notice. Hence the first 12,500 had not been cald. The I O U Mr. Muratti had laughed at. The stones had cost him quite enough already, or would do so before he had.

On this memorable day old Cy had just done with Jossey, and he didn't propose

It was a case of dog eating dog, but Ridley could do nothing without disclosing the whole transaction, and that would mean not less than ten years on the breakwater

for him, so he grinned and bore it, and waited till Josey came out.

Meanwhile Mr. Muratti grew and flour-ished exceedingly. Everything he touched turned either to go'd or diamonds—though he never touched anything illicit after the

last big deal. He was quite a great man now, but, as

De Beers would give a good bit just take of his life. Josuey came out of penal a plant me on the breakwater for a few servitude a very different person to the

It was in this humor that Ridley had found It was it his numor that kidley had found him. He had made a little money more or less honestly since his discharge, and so there was no suggestion of sponging. But he was very sore still about the check and the l. O. U. and in Jossey he thought he saw the means of getting square with the millionaire who had done him su h an unscrupulcus "shot in the eye."

To this end he worked both skillfully and

To this end he worked both skillfully and successfully on the ex-convict's feelings until he came to look upon himself as a marryr and Michael Muratti as a monster of ingratitude. What were a few pairry thousands to the millions that were literally rolling in—the millions which would never have bene his if he, Joshua, had not borne the penalty of his crime? He had the plainest right to a good, substantial share of them, and so, too, for the matter of that, had except that which perialned to old Cy, his them, and so, too, for the matter of that, had except that which pertained to old Cy, he man from whom Mickey had so dishon-invention, his probable fate and his ultima

come to their knowledge, which, after due for president of the United States and pres-deliberation together, had inspired them to ent justice of the peace, write the joint letter that had so disturbed. But suddenly old Cy and his skiff started

write the joint letter that had so disturbed Mr. Murrati's equanimity.

They traveled home by the same mail boat which carried their letter, and on the moraing following its delivery they paid a visit and various individuals fell to prochesying to the millionaire at his West End mansion. evil, while the evangelist muttered The interview was not exactly a friendly one, about noble lives being sacrificed to science

The man of millions threatened to have them put into the street, and broadly hinted at the advisability of giving them into custody as blackmailers. That brought matters to a head in a somewhat dramatic fashion.

The executer took out his pocketbook and produced from it a half sheet of note paper, on which was pasted a short newspaper out-He handed 't to the millionaire and

"That's from the Cape Times, Mr. Muratti. Do you think you could throw any light on the subject? I have an idea that you could, especially with our assistance. De Beers would give a good deal to know how that stone got away. I believe they would even accept me as queen's evidence to get the mystery cleared up. What do you think?" With slowly widening eyes and sinking heart, the man of many millions, and more ambitions, read the cutting. It ran thus:

"The king of the Belgians has just indulged in his well known taste for gems by the addi tion to his already priceless collection of a magnificent rose-colored diamond, weighing nearly thirty carats in its cut state. His majesty is rumored to have paid the enormous price of a thousand pounds a carat to the Amsterdam merchant of whom he bought it. In color and water it is the exact counterpart of the famous rose diamond in the Do Reers collection, but it is much larger.
"Its origin is involved in some little mys tery. The merchants from whom his majesty purchased it affirm that the dealer from whom they bought it declared that it was eo ancient gem re-cut in Amsterdam, but ex perts who have seen it state with equal post 'No, bust me if I do! I've been generous

tiveness that it is a Kimberley stone.
"A rumor reaches us from Diamondopolis that a certain Kaffir, who has since disappeared, boosted one night in his cups, just after he had been discharged from the Kimberiev compound, that he had found the biggest routklippe (red stone) that ever was found on the fields. If this is true, the ston never reached the diamond room at De Bests It is just cossible that some of the L. D. B fraternity could throw some light on the subsequent wanderings of the 'mooi roof klippe" of which the vanished Kaffir boasted. Frank Ridley and Joshua Mescastel. vatched the millionaire's changing face par wly as he read. When he saw that he has

finished Ridley said quictly: "I can find that Kaffir, if necessary, Mr Muratti. Of course the d'amond law does no hold good in this country, but the laws as to conspiracy and dealing in stolen goods do if De Beers presecuted they would find my evidence worth buying. Jossey here has don nis time and could make a cican breast of i without fear, and so the only one who could be touched would be-" "O, that'll do!" exclaimed the millicuaire in a burst of descalring anger. "What d:

want half a million down and anothe half in approved securities—preferably De Beers," replied Ridley; "and as a matter of orine ole, I must have that check in favor of Miss Ransome duly honored. A million-aire's wife should be above suspicion."

"And I want a million, too," chimed in Mr. Moseretein, "same way as Frank want: als. And what's more, Mickey Muratti," he went on, staking his finger in his face, "a you diegraced me by scaling to the Break water for your crime, you must restore my credit in the eyes of the society that I shall go into now, by making your wife let me marry that pretty little sister Rebecca of hera that I have loved all my life. She was always fond of me and will have me when I am a millionaire. I dare say you can spare here a decent marriers partless.

er a decent marriage portion." They were big terms, but Mr. Muratti did ot yet despair of being introduced to the ince of Walca, and so in the end he yielded A few weeks later two new made South African millionaires, one English and one Hebrew, blossomed forth, each in his congenial sphere of London society. A little later on there were two splendid weddings, and, until these lines appear in print, the mystery of the King's Rose Diamond will emain unsolved.

It is easy to catch a cold and just as casy to get rid of it if you commence early to oughs, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. It is pleasant take, safe to use and sure to cure.

OLD CY'S GREATEST DAY.

Discovers a Submarine Motor that Rents Shooting the Chutes. Almost every river contains catfish, bu the genuine Missouri river catfish is usually olg enough to swallow one of the others and still be hungry. Every day, during the favorite season with carfishermen, some one deeper game and for a bigger stake. It's through the death of a relative in London, he brings to the market a fish weighing from had come into about \$5,000 ready cash and seventy-five to 100 pounds, but Silas Hutch-shadowed while we were talking in Stock-dale street. He didn't see it, but I did, and thousand a year.

"Old Cy," relates the Peru (Neb.) corre

On this memorable day old Cy had just got out to the channel when he seemed to be laboring under great excitement. There was of his boat. A small crowd that had for lowed him to the river saw his little skiff start up stream at a pace faster than any river steamboat ever made. They began t cheer, thinking old Cy had a successful in vention at last. Numerous theories were advanced concerning a submarine motor. Th erowd tried to ask questions of the old man, but he was disappearing too rapidly and was too much engrossed with presen affairs to answer any questions. spread rapidly, as such things will in sme villages. Merchants closed their stores and the local capitalist shut up the bank to igo down to the river and get the first option old Cy's successful idea.

The river at this point is straight for two miles, but old Cy had disappeared around the bend. The banker stepped into the tele-graph office, near at hand, and sent a mes-sage to Nebraska City, addressed to Slas Hutchins, en route, offering the old inventor all the capital needed to exploit his invention, whatever it might be, and appealing this local pride not to desert home indutrie When the banker came out of the office there was a shout from the crowd and away up the river was old Cy coming down faste than he had gone up. Cy's motor was th After more than three years of penal toil and discipline, embittered by deprivation of all creature comforts, it was only in the course of nature when he regained his freedom, and found himself in command of plenty of money, he should be strongly inclined to compensate himself for his vicarious sufferings on a somewhat liberat scale.

It was in this home of the sufficient of the content of the sufficient of the content of the sufficient of the sufficient of the content of the sufficient of the take a notice to turn suddenly. His bout through the little waves like a knit The foam behird looked like a sea of wi lager as nearly as the citizens of a prohib tion town could judge.

"Where you goin' to, Cy?" some one yelled "Don't know sartin. Mebbe K. C.—mebb Yallerstone park. S'long!" and the old man shot out of sight.

isn't shut and he'e got a pair of mixe to mend. I'll be there in half an hour, aid if I take your pircel away with me instead of my own, well, what's that to amybody but you or me?"

Then you know a mighty lôt more about my house than I do myself, Mr. Lipinzki, snapped the little man somewhat victorisly.

Went home with a check for £2,500 and an I OU for a like amount in his pocket, and a pair of another man's boots under his arm in eatly wrapped up in a copy of the D'amound Fields Independent. The check was on Lloyd's bank, London, and was parable, not into of the boots, and a pair of mixe to my soul save us a lot of trouble and yourself and household a lot of inconvenience by passing over the stones at once. We strong well of the stones on which his new fortunes had been founded.

As time went on these arguments were forty, a strongly enferced by the fact that the three was aircady being organized to telegraph Moyor Jeces and demonstrate was already being organized to telegraph Moyor Jeces and demonstrate two hours lister Frenck Bidley and the stones of spending modey with the cheefful freedom that is bone of a sure and certain hope that, when it is done, there was a lot of inconvenience by passing over the stones at once. We fortunes had been founded.

As time went on these arguments were forty, a committee was aircady being organized to telegraph Moyor Jeces and demonstrate the population, his probable fate and his uitimute destly oblained the stones on which his new fortunes had been founded.

As time went on these arguments were forty, and the scones on what he fact that the three that the city. A committee was aircady being organized to telegraph Moyor Jeces and demonstrate the stones of spending modes with the cheefful freedom that is done, there were the stones of spending modes with the cheefful freedom that is done, there will be pleanty more forthcoming. The logical result was that the two worshies, now what you've got a warrant you can act on it.

As time went on these stronged the sintent the clie "He's broke his darmed machine!" said Omaha Medical and Surgical Institute

long this state of affairs would have lasted

put an end to it all. A fleating log afforded Cy a change to anchor his beat. "Fetch me a Winchester," he yelled. Pete Complanter and Jim Huskinpeg took the westion out to him.

Then, for a half hour those three pulled on the line and shot into the water. The lucky shot came at last and the body of old Cy's 117-pound catfish floated with the placid muddy tide of the Missouri. It was the big-gest event that has happened "in our midst" since the Nemaha county "Nemesia" forsook the gold standard and came out for fre

Prosperity comes quickest to the man whose liver is in good condition. DeWitt's Little Early Risers are famous little pills for constipation, billousness, indigestion and all stomach and liver troubles.

SOME RECENT INVESTIONS.

An improved mankeywrench just placed on the market has the adjusting screw mounted on ball bearings to make it turn

Firemen will appreciate a hose and too carrier recently patented, which has a belt to go around the walst, with a shoulder strap to support the weight of the tools and hose line. To protect bank cashiers from robbers

steel plate is set in the counter close to the window and held by a spring so it can be released by the foot and fly upward to close the window and step bulle e.
Guns can be easily cleaned by a new de vice consisting of a central stem and a pair of elongated spring-plates, with wide, flaring

ends centrally pivoted to the stem to reclosely and fit against the interior of the barrel. A new footrest for bicycles is attached t the under bar of the frame and suports the heels in such a position that the toes lie or opposite sides of the front wheel and can t pressed against the tire to act as a brak.

To assist in moving ratiread cars by hand an operating lever is fitted with a loop to engage the axle and has a pivoted hook set a short distance from the end to grip the im of the wheel and turn it as the leve To dampen the clothes before ironing Texas woman has invented a device which consists of a water receptacle with a sponge at the bottom to be attached to the nose of the iron and wet the cloth as it slides along In a new bloycle saddle the seat portion is linged to the frame in front and is pressed ipward by a spring-actuated pin, set in the rear part of the frame, which relieves the jar of the rider in going over rough surfaces.

Check reins cannot become unfastened ac-identally from a new holder which is hinged to the pad and springs upward to receive the loop in the rein, after which it is pressed back against the pad and held in place by a In a recently patented safety device for elevators two rows of pins are set in the guideways of the shaft with hooks mounted on the elevator to catch in them as soon as the cable which supports the elevator breaks and allows the springs to operate.

A western man has patented a grain ele-vator in which compressed air is used to carry the grain a receiving vessel being mounted at the end of a suction pipe, which draws the grain into a blast pipe and forces with the air to the top of the elevator.

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What, Ho! For Winter Sports!

of the same of the ALL HAIL THE

We're off for the skating! We're down the toboggan slide! Gee! But isn't it fun!

The Ice Carnival is on at the Exposition grounds. They charge 10 cents to get into the grounds, 10 cents admission to the ice and 5 cents for each ride down the toboggan slide.

Any Boy or Girl Can Go Free.

IF you will bring in two new subscribers for the Daily and Sunday Bee for two weeks each, you can get a ticket to the grounds, an admission to the ice and four trip tickets for the toboggan slide, or eight tobggan tickets or four ice admissions.

IF you bring in one new subscriber to the Daily and Sunday Bee for three weeks, you can get a ticket to the grounds, an admission to theice and two trip tickets for the toboggan slide; or three ice admissions, or six toboggan tickets,

IF you bring in more subscribers, or for a longer time, you can get tickets at the same rate for each bona fide new subscriber—that is, an admission to the grounds, or an admission to the ice, or two trip tickets for the toboggan slide, for each week paid in advance by the new subscribers you bring in. The more subscribers, the more tickets. A whole lot of fun for just a little work,

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